



# EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT A IRIS

## the HIT LIST AGENDA

ISSUE #1 of 5  
VOLUME TWO

DAVID WOHL  
EDUARDO FRANCISCO  
TEODORO GONZALEZ



HIT LIST AGENDA • COVER A  
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# "NO SURRENDER"

WRITER

DAVID WOHL

PENCILS

EDUARDO FRANCISCO

INKS

ALEX LEI

COLORS

TEODORO GONZALEZ

LETTERING

JOSH REED



PART 1 OF 5

*The story so far...*

In Volume One, Corporate power monger Mr. Ching ruled over his Executive Assistant, a deadly secretary, bodyguard, and assassin known as Iris, with dominating authority. However, in the treacherous game of global industry—there is no control.

Experiencing a life of decency—and love—outside of Ching's immoral clutches, while confronting the demons of her past, Iris vowed to reverse the path of bloodshed and death left by her employer's decisions. Along the way though, she discovered that even killing her master could not stop the machinations of a network that stretched far beyond her comprehension.

Enter Diane Coverdale. A new type of corporate mastermind altogether, armed with a new type of Executive Assistant. In today's modern, cutthroat world, today's CEO needs an intimidating edge to stay on top—and must look stylish doing it. But, where does Iris fit in this vacuum of power left by Ching's death? One thing is for certain—the is no longer alone in her profession. The Hit List Agenda starts now.



A: DIRECT EDITION  
EDUARDO FRANCISCO  
SUNNY CHO



B: DIRECT EDITION  
JOE BENITEZ  
PETER STEIGERWALD

*created by David Wohl, Brad Foxhoven & Michael Turner*

Digital Editors: FRANK MASTROMAURO, VINCE HERNANDEZ

Design and Production: JOSH REED, MARK ROSLAN, PETER STEIGERWALD

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FOR ASPEN:

Founder: MICHAEL TURNER  
Editorial Assistant: JOSH REED

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Production Assistant: CHAZ RIGGS

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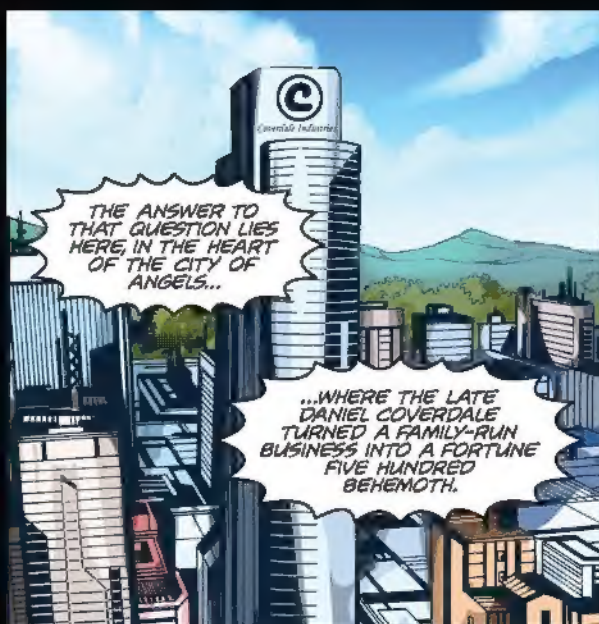
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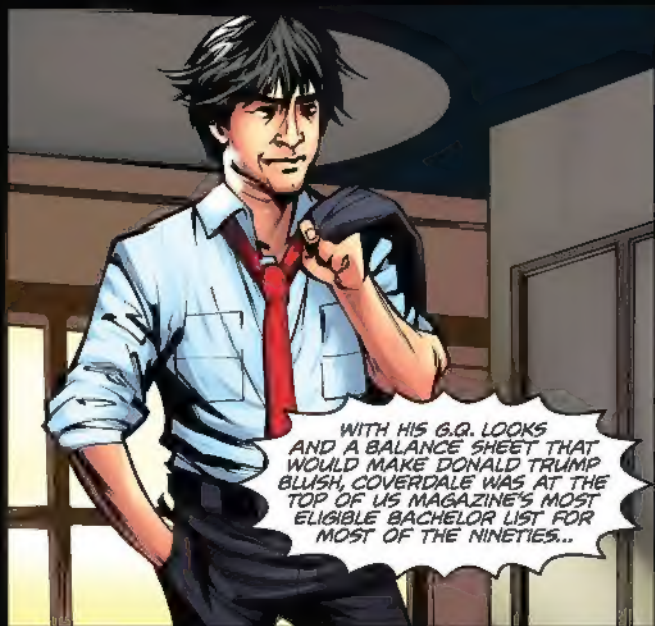


BECAUSE AMERICA WANTS TO KNOW-- WHO IS DIANE COVERDALE???



THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION LIES HERE, IN THE HEART OF THE CITY OF ANGELS...

...WHERE THE LATE DANIEL COVERDALE TURNED A FAMILY-RUN BUSINESS INTO A FORTUNE FIVE HUNDRED BEHEMOTH.



WITH HIS G.Q. LOOKS AND A BALANCE SHEET THAT WOULD MAKE DONALD TRUMP BLUSH, COVERDALE WAS AT THE TOP OF US MAGAZINE'S MOST ELIGIBLE BACHELOR LIST FOR MOST OF THE NINETIES...



...UNTIL HE MET U.S.C. GRAD STUDENT DIANE MARTIN WHILE LECTURING AT A YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS SEMINAR.



THE COURTSHIP WAS FAST AND FURIOUS... AND WITHIN EIGHTEEN MONTHS, HOLLYWOOD'S FIRST COUPLE WAS MARRIED AT A "SMALL" CEREMONY IN BALI WITH TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED OF THEIR CLOSEST FRIENDS.

FOR A WHILE, IT SEEMED LIKE THE HONEYMOON WOULD LAST FOREVER...



...BUT IN THIS FAIRY TALE, THERE'S NO HAPPY ENDING.

RUMORS OF SECRET TRYSTS WITH VIC PETERSEN AND OTHER HOLLYWOOD HUNKS DOGGED THEIR RELATIONSHIP AND THE ONCE-HAPPY COUPLE SEEMED TO DRIFT MORE AND MORE APART.





RUMORS OF DIVORCE RAN RAMPANT, BUT THERE WAS SPECULATION THAT A RECONCILIATION WAS TAKING PLACE...

**POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS**

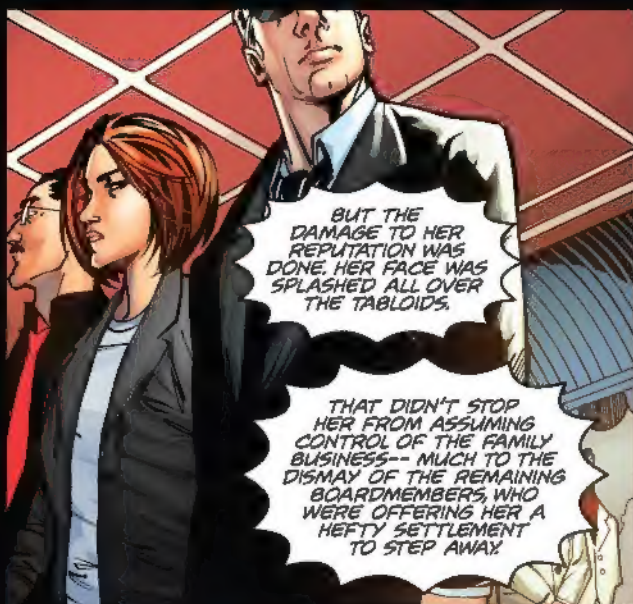
...UNTIL THAT FATEFUL EARLY MORNING, WHEN SHOTS RANG OUT IN A QUIET DOWNTOWN L.A. STREET, MERE BLOCKS FROM COVERDALE'S OFFICE.



SOME SAY IT WAS A CARJACKING GONE AWRY, OTHERS SUSPECTED FOUL PLAY. THE SHOOTERS WERE NEVER APPREHENDED.



AMIDST ACCUSATIONS OF BEING A "BLACK WIDOW" IN SEARCH OF INSURANCE MONEY, MRS. COVERDALE WAS QUESTIONED BY POLICE AND RELEASED WITHOUT CHARGES.



BUT THE DAMAGE TO HER REPUTATION WAS DONE. HER FACE WAS SPLASHED ALL OVER THE TABLOIDS.

THAT DIDN'T STOP HER FROM ASSUMING CONTROL OF THE FAMILY BUSINESS-- MUCH TO THE DISMAY OF THE REMAINING BOARDMEMBERS, WHO WERE OFFERING HER A HEFTY SETTLEMENT TO STEP AWAY.



SHE QUICKLY PROVED HERSELF UP TO THE TASK, MAKING A SERIES OF ACQUISITIONS THAT DOUBLED THE COMPANY STOCK AND PROPELLED HER INTO THE BUSINESS LIMELIGHT.

THEN FATE STRUCK A CRUEL BLOW WHEN A MYSTERIOUS GUNMAN OPENED FIRE AT AN L.A. CHARITY EVENT, LEAVING SEVERAL GUARDS DEAD AND MRS. COVERDALE SERIOUSLY INJURED.



AGAIN, THE KILLER WAS NEVER FOUND AND SO THE QUESTION REMAINS: WHO IS GUNNING FOR THE COVERDALES... AND WHY?



LOS ANGELES,  
CALIFORNIA  
7:25 P.M.

AND JUST WHAT  
DOES DIANE KNOW  
ABOUT IT? AMERICA  
WANTS TO KNOW!!!

NOTHING,  
DAMMIT!

WE POSED  
THAT QUESTION TO  
SAMUEL HOLLOWAY  
VICE CHAIRMAN OF  
COVERDALE  
INDUSTRIES...

LOOK, I'M NOT  
GONNA SPECULATE ON  
THE SORDID DETAILS OF MRS.  
COVERDALE'S RELATIONSHIPS.  
I LEAVE THAT TO  
YOU GUYS.

I WILL SAY THAT  
ALTHOUGH SHE'S HAD  
SOME LUCKY BREAKS  
SINCE SHE ACQUIRED THE  
COMPANY IT'S TIME TO  
TURN THE REINS OVER  
TO THE EXPERTS...

JESUS, TELL US  
HOW YOU REALLY  
FEEL, SAM...

SHHOLE...

IF YOU  
DON'T MIND  
ME ASKING, WHY  
DO YOU SUBJECT  
YOURSELF TO  
THAT?

CLICK

MORBID  
CURIOSITY?

I GUESS I JUST  
LIKE TO KNOW WHAT  
PEOPLE ARE SAYING  
ABOUT ME-- BUT  
POINT TAKEN, ACTEIA.  
BESIDES...









AT ONE TIME, THEY SERVED  
A VERY SPECIFIC PURPOSE:  
SUBTLE SECURITY.

PERSONALLY,  
I PREFER THE GUYS  
WITH THE DARK SUITS,  
EAR-PIECES AND  
GLOCKS, BUT IF YOU  
SAY SHE'S BETTER, I  
BELIEVE YOU.

TO PEACE  
OF MIND...



TO US...

KLINK

IF YOU WERE A BUSINESSMAN AND YOUR DEALINGS  
REQUIRED YOU TO HAVE TRANSACTIONS WITH UNSAVORY  
TYPES, YOU HIRED AN EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT.



EXCUSE ME,  
HONEY?

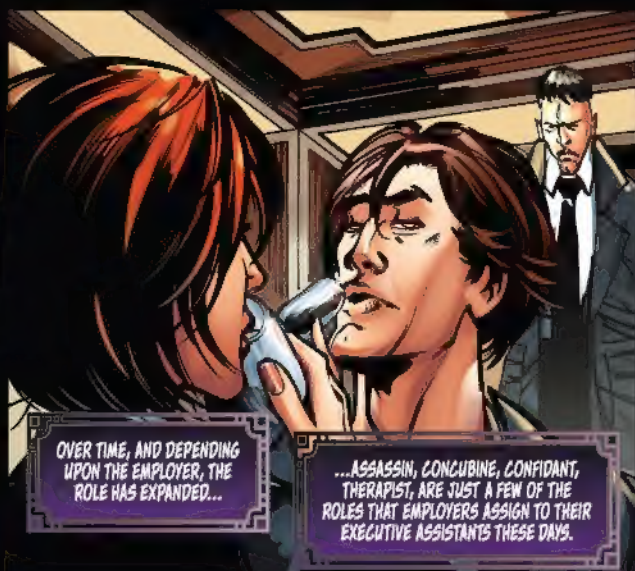
SOMEONE WHO COULD KEEP YOU SAFE  
WITHOUT TIPPING OFF YOUR ASSOCIATE  
THAT YOU, IN FACT, DIDN'T TRUST THEM.



HEY THERE,  
LONELY GIRL.  
CAN I BUY YOU  
A DRINK?

GET  
LOST.

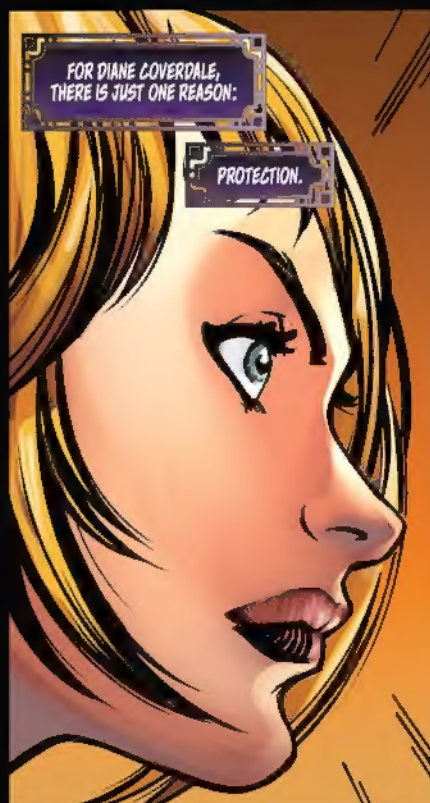
YOU GOT  
IT.



OVER TIME, AND DEPENDING  
UPON THE EMPLOYER, THE  
ROLE HAS EXPANDED...

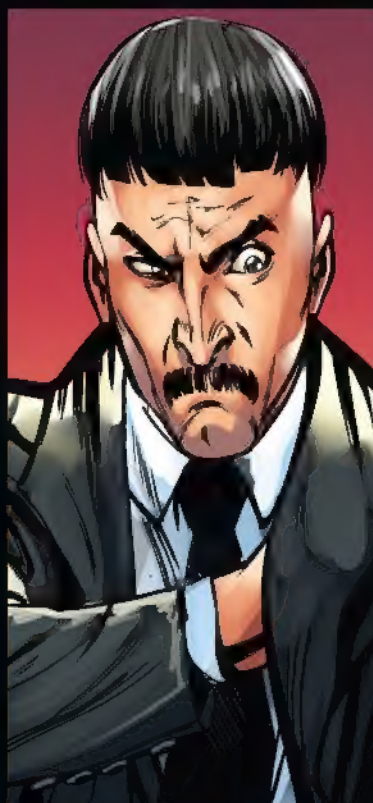
...ASSASSIN, CONCUBINE, CONFIDANT,  
THERAPIST, ARE JUST A FEW OF THE  
ROLES THAT EMPLOYERS ASSIGN TO THEIR  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS THESE DAYS.





FOR DIANE COVERDALE,  
THERE IS JUST ONE REASON:

PROTECTION.



DISCRETE  
PROTECTION.



EX-  
CUSE  
ME?



CAN I HAVE YOUR  
AUTOGRAPH, MISTER  
PETERSEN?



OF  
COURSE.  
HAHA!

BECAUSE, WHEN YOU'RE  
DIANE COVERDALE, YOU  
NEVER KNOW WHEN THE  
PERSON APPROACHING  
YOUR TABLE IS AN  
AUTOGRAPH SEEKER...











AT THE MAJORITY OF ACADEMIES,  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS ARE  
TRAINED TO KEEP COLLATERAL  
DAMAGE TO A MINIMUM.

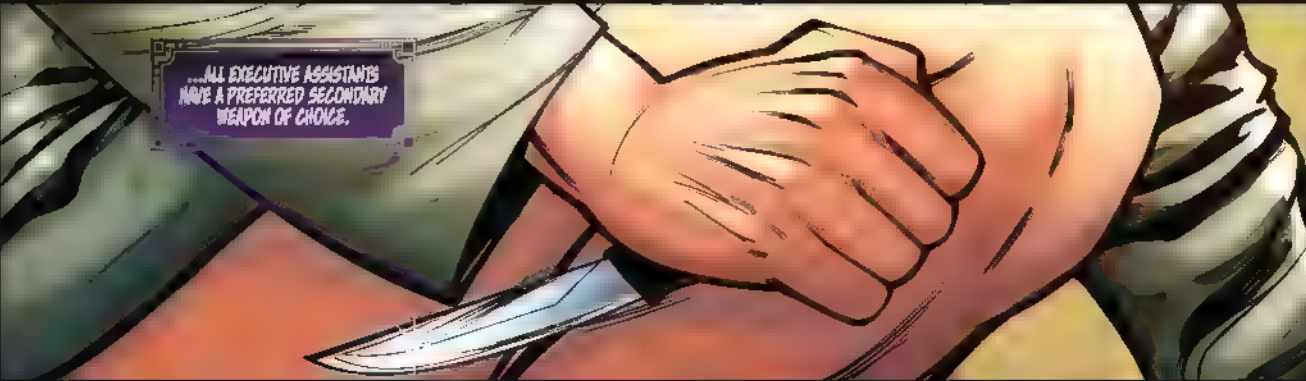


THAT'S COMMON SENSE, REALLY,  
BECAUSE FAILURE TO DO SO CAN  
HAVE UNFORESEEN CONSEQUENCES,  
SUCH AS LOSING YOUR EMPLOYER.

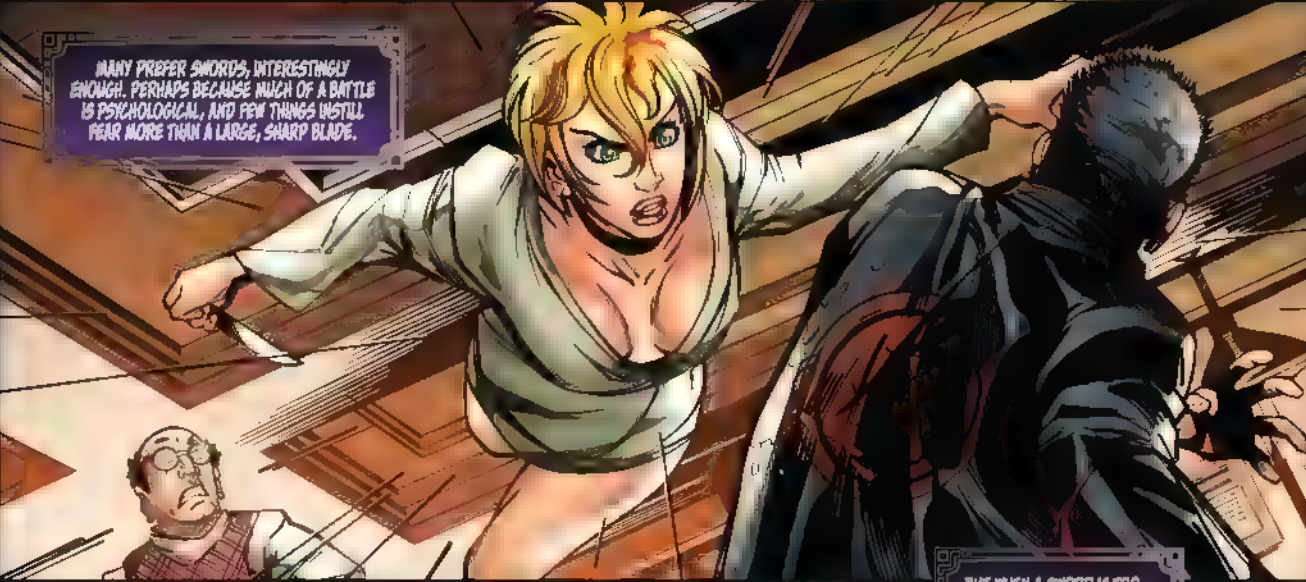


AND WHILE THEIR MARTIAL ARTS  
TRAINING IS USUALLY SUFFICIENT  
TO ACCOMPLISH THE TASK...






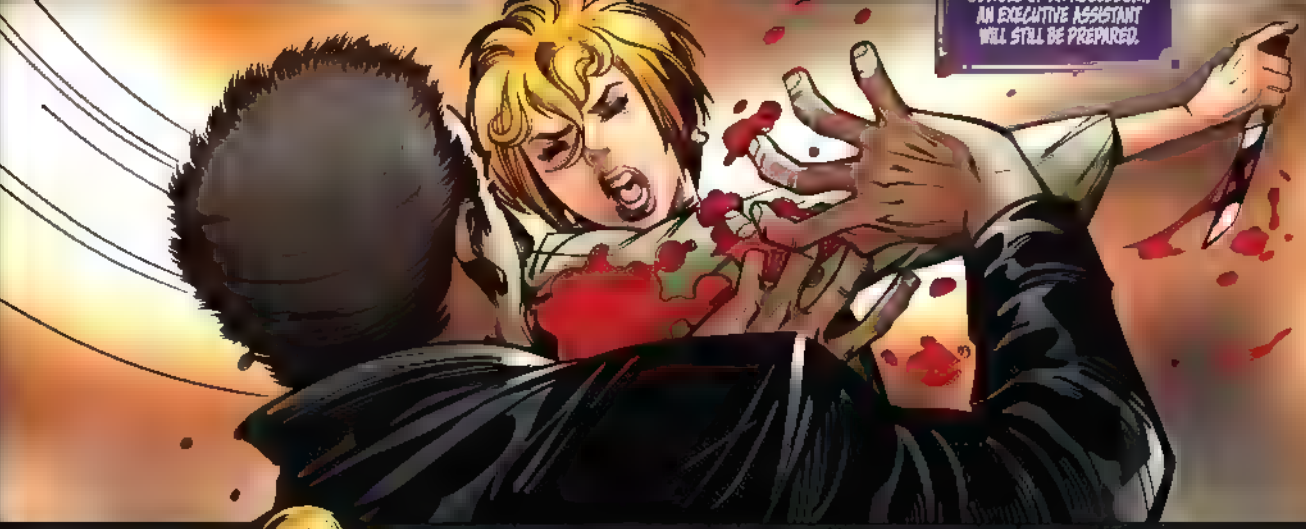
...ALL EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS  
HAVE A PREFERRED SECONDARY  
WEAPON OF CHOICE.



MANY PREFER SWORDS, INTERESTINGLY  
ENOUGH. PERHAPS BECAUSE MUCH OF A BATTLE  
IS PSYCHOLOGICAL, AND FEW THINGS INSTILL  
FEAR MORE THAN A LARGE, SHARP BLADE.



BUT WHEN A SWORD IS TOO...  
OPTIONS OF AN ACCESSORY,  
AN EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT  
WILL STILL BE PREPARED.



AFTER ALL, IN THE PROPER  
HANDS, A KIRIPE CAN BE JUST  
AS SCARY-- AND DEADLY--  
AS A SWORD.





WHEN RISK OF COLLATERAL DAMAGE IS HIGH, THE USE OF FIREARMS IS FROWNED UPON...



BY EITHER PARTY.



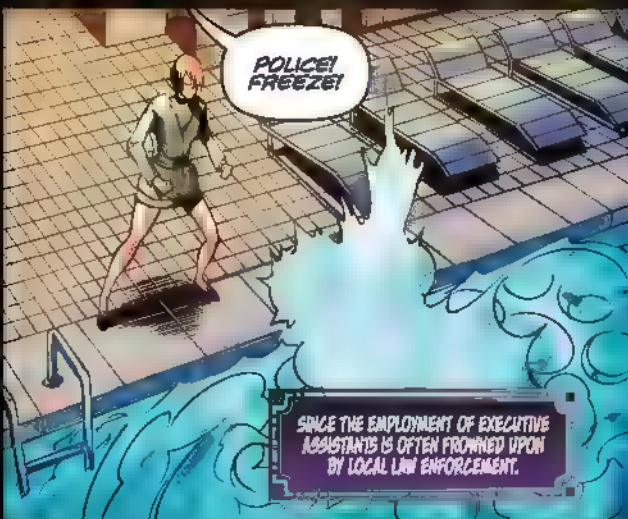
WHO SENT YOU?

IT'S BEST TO MINIMIZE THE CHANCE OF DISCHARGE, ACCIDENTAL OR OTHERWISE.



ANSWER ME!

THESE TECHNIQUES TEND TO BE USEFUL WHEN ONE'S EMPLOYER NEEDS TO BE PROTECTED IN A PUBLIC PLACE.



POLICE! FREEZE!

SINCE THE EMPLOYMENT OF EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS IS OFTEN FROWNED UPON BY LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.



PUT YOUR HANDS WHERE I CAN SEE 'EM!



9:10 A.M.



Coverdale Industries

NO OFFENSE, MRS. COVERDALE, BUT THIS IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF TABLOID MATERIAL THAT THE COMPANY CAN DO WITHOUT!

THEY WERE TRYING TO KILL ME.



HAVE YOU SEEN THE WIRE? OUR STOCK IS DOWN FOUR AND A HALF POINTS IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS. DOUBTLESS DUE TO YOUR SHENANIGANS.

ARE YOU FINISHED?



ACTUALLY NO, MRS. COVERDALE, THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AGAIN HAVE ASKED ME TO IMPLORE YOU TO CONSIDER OUR BUYOUT OFFER-- FOR THE GOOD OF ALL OF US.



LOOK, SAM. I APOLOGIZE FOR LAST NIGHT. IT WAS... UNFORTUNATE. BUT THERE IS NO WAY IN HELL THAT I'D STEP DOWN OVER THIS.

AND I WILL CONTINUE TO LIVE LIFE MY WAY WITHOUT INTERFERENCE FROM YOU OR ANYONE ELSE, JUST LIKE DANNY DID.

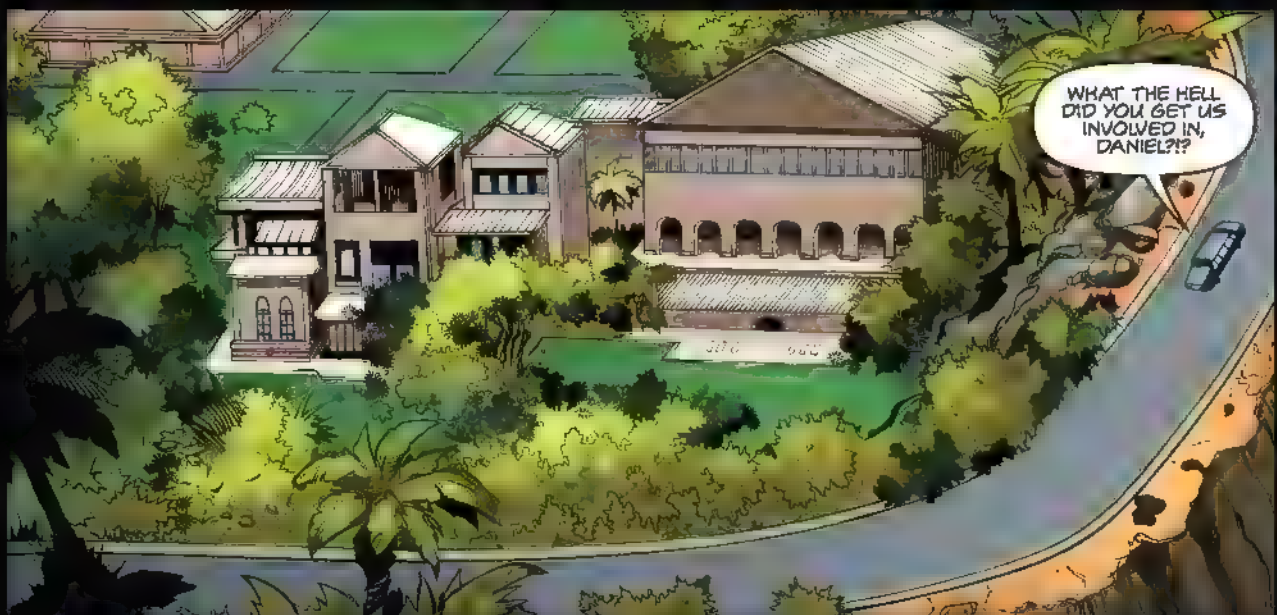
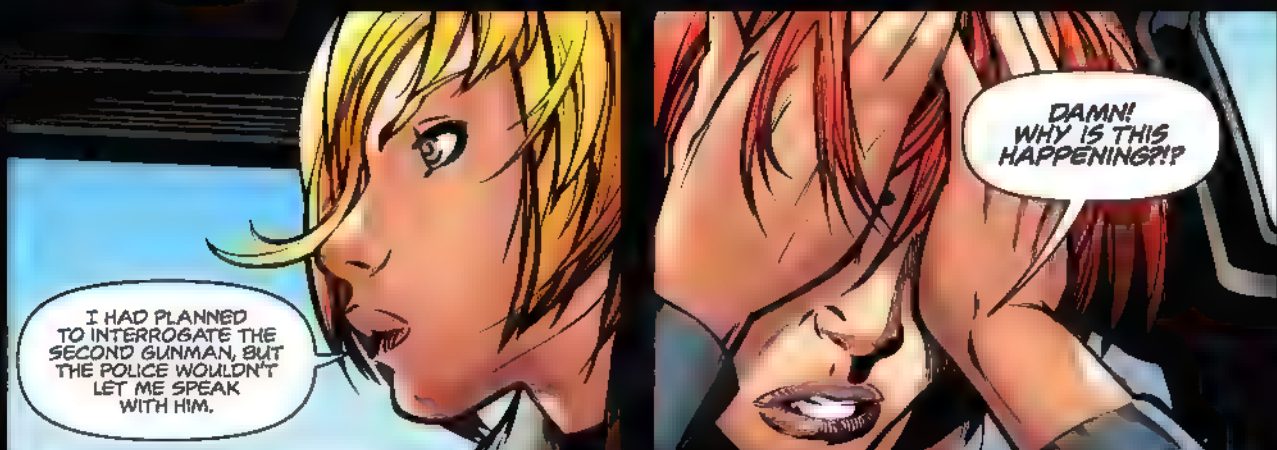
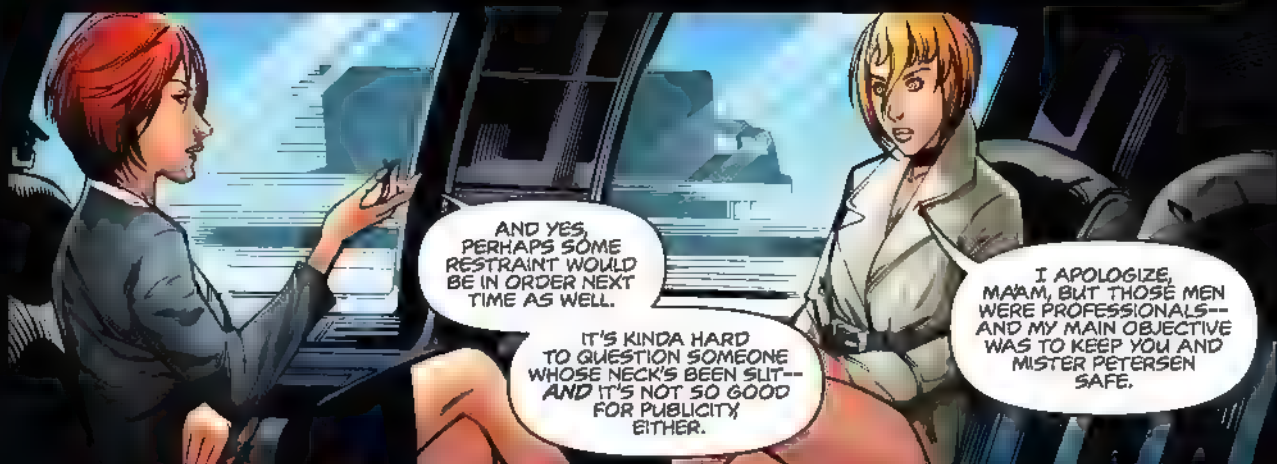
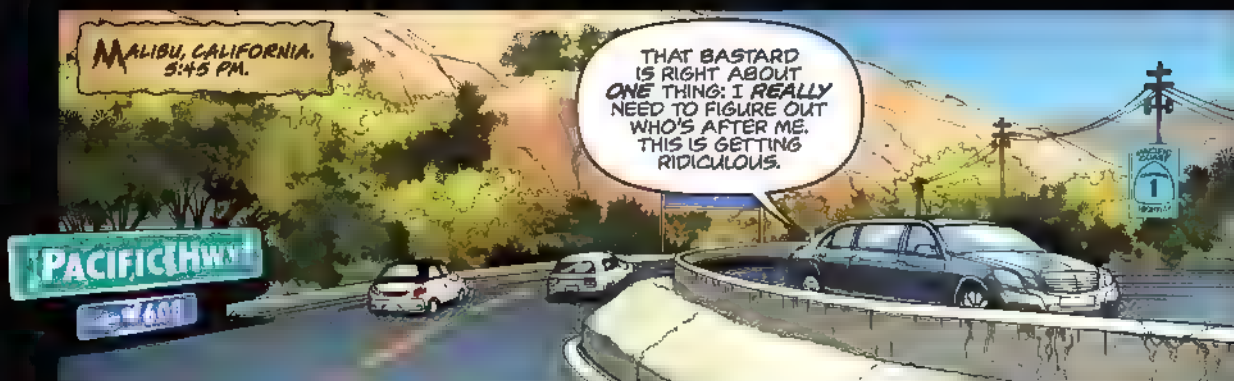


THEN I SUGGEST YOU TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT ALL OF YOUR HUSBAND'S PRIOR BUSINESS ACTIVITIES TO DISCOVER JUST WHO WANTS YOU DEAD...



...OR PERHAPS YOU ENJOY BEING A TARGET?







6:15 P.M.

I NEED TO RELAX.

MRS. COVERDALE HOPED THAT AN EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT WOULD MAKE HER SECURITY PROBLEMS GO AWAY.

AND IN THE SIX MONTHS SINCE SHE ACQUIRED ACTEA, THINGS DID SEEM TO BE GETTING MORE CALM.

AS IS THE TRADITION, SHE BROUGHT ACTEA INTO HER HOME—EVEN SET UP A GYM FOR HER.

HAVING HER CLOSE GAVE DIANE PEACE OF MIND.

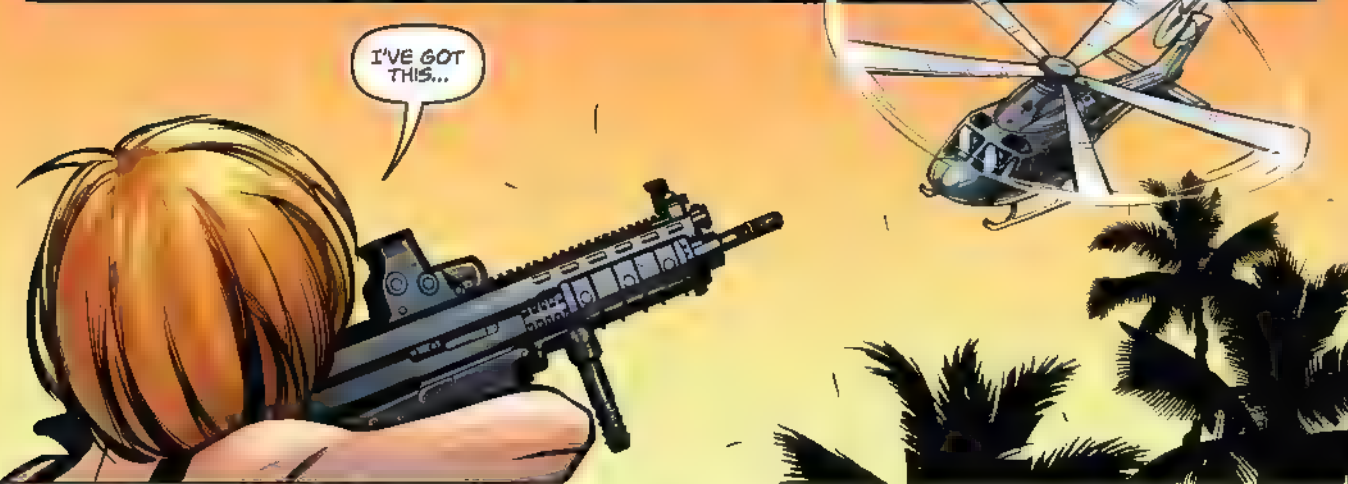
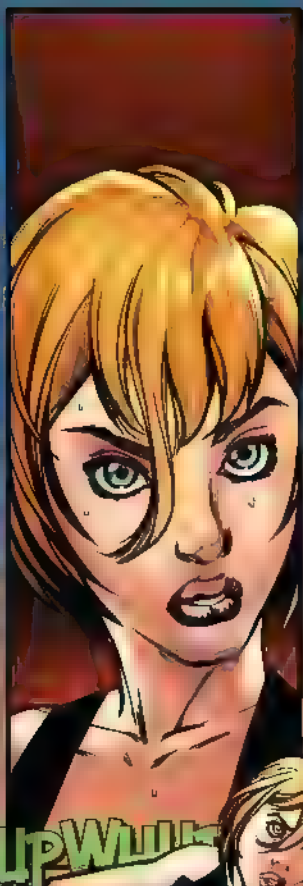
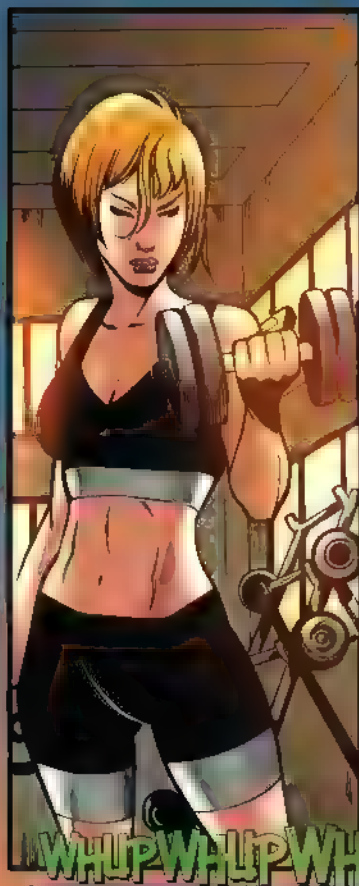
YET SHE KNEW THAT TROUBLE WAS STILL LOOKING.

SHE DESPERATELY WANTED TO BELIEVE THAT THE MURDER OF HER HUSBAND WAS MERELY A TRAGIC ACT OF RANDOM VIOLENCE.

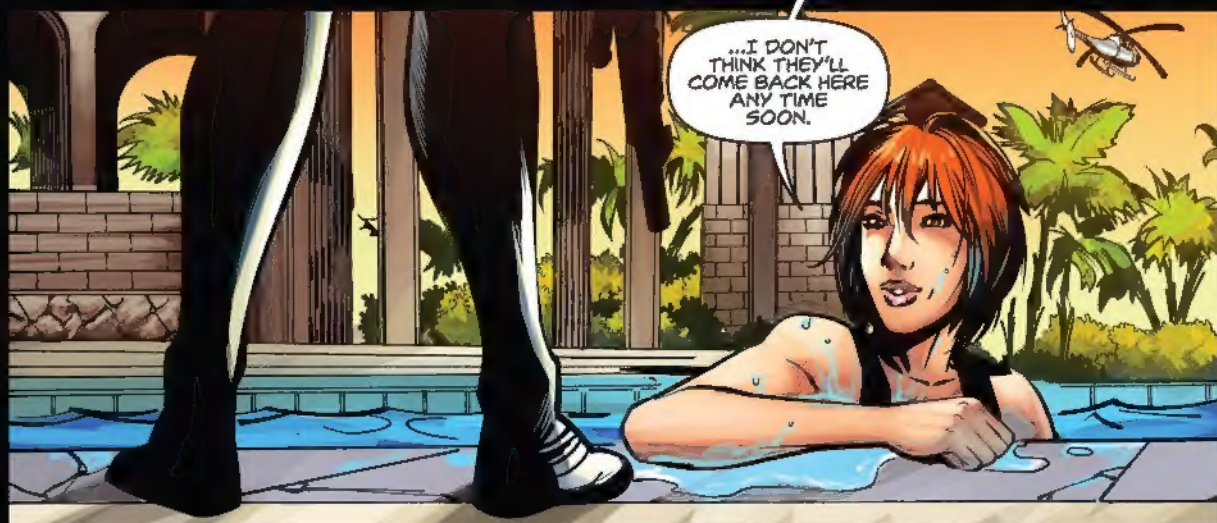
IT WASN'T.

WHIPWHIPWHIP











1:15 A.M.

THE COLD, HARD TRUTH IS,  
SECURITY IS A TENUOUS THING.

IF A PERSON WANTS SOMETHING--  
OR SOMEONE--BADLY ENOUGH,  
THEY WILL EVENTUALLY GET IT.

NO MATTER WHO  
IS PROTECTING IT.











ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY  
DON'T REALIZE THAT THEY  
ARE THE TARGET.

NICE TO SEE  
YOU AGAIN,  
ACTEIA...

TO BE CONTINUED!  
EXECUTIVE  
ASSISTANT: IRIS #2  
THE JEFFREY ASSOCIATES